

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1645

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2281

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PERP, CSCE, HU, US, XG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JANOS NAGY

REF: STATE 138827

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY, LIKE DEPARTMENT, BELIEVES THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS AND CSCE SHOULD BE MAIN FOCI OF DISCUSSIONS WITH JANOS NAGY. WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO EXAMINE WITH HIM EAST-WEST RELATIONS GENERALLY. RECENT BEREZ VIT INDICATED HUNGARIANS MAY BE WILLING TO EXPAND MEANINGFUL POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH U.S. BEYOND QUESTIONS OF DIRECT BILATERAL INTEREST AND EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IN U.S. INTEREST EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY. END SUMMARY.

2. ON BILATERAL SIDE, NAGY IS SURE TO BE INTERESTED IN LATEST APPRAISAL OF PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE OF U.S.-HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREEMENT BY SENATE. WE ASSUME RANKING U.S. OFFICIALS WITH WHOM NAGY MEETS WILL CONTINUE TO ACKNOWLEDGE HUNGARY'S FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND NOTE THAT CONTINUED PROGRESS ON FEW OUTSTANDING CASES AND ON FUTURE CASES WILL NOT ONLY HELP PASSAGE OF TRADE AGREEMENT BUT CONTINUE TO EXERCISE A FAVORABLE INFLUENCE ON OUR DEVELOPING BILATERAL RELATIONS IN ALL SPHERES.
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3. NAGY MAY AGAIN REITERATE IN CHARACTERISTICALLY INDIRECT HUNGARIAN FASHION OBVIOUS GREAT INTEREST IN HIGH LEVEL EXCHANGES OF VISITS WITH U.S. INCLUDING PUJA TO U.S., SECRETARY VANCE TO HUNGARY OR PRIME MINISTER LAZAR TO U.S. WE DOUBT THAT HE WILL SUGGEST A KADAR VISIT AT THIS STAGE IN OUR RELATIONS. A VISIT AT

FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL WOULD BE IN OUR INTEREST AND EMBASSY RECOMMENDS WE SHOULD BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE ON THIS POINT.

4. AS MATTERS STAND WE ANTICIPATE HAVING PROGRAM WORKED OUT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT PRIOR TO JUNE 29. IF A SNAG DEVELOPS BEFORE THEN, EMBASSY MAY SUGGEST DISCUSSING IT WITH NAGY.

5. TO DATE OUR CSCE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOH HAVE BEEN CONFINED STRICTLY TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE IMPLEMENTED UNILATERALLY OR BILATERALLY. IN EMBASSY'S OPINION, TIME MAY HAVE ARRIVED TO TAKE UP WITH HUNGARIANS QUESTION OF MULTILATERAL PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD HAVE CHANCE OF SUCCESS AT MADRID. HUNGARY MIGHT BE A GOOD DISCUSSION PARTNER IN THAT IT HAS REAL INTEREST IN SUCCESS OF CSCE PROCESS AND SEEMS TO HAVE REGARDED BELGRADE MEETING MORE POSITIVELY THAN SOME OF ITS ALLIES. IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BUT WE BELIEVE IDEA OF A PREPARATORY DIALOGUE, WHAT SUCH A DIALOGUE SHOULD CONTAIN AND WHAT IT COULD ACHIEVE SHOULD BE RAISED WITH NAGY.

6. EMBASSY IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST (STATE 120984) FOR PROPOSALS TO BE USED IN BILATERAL APPROACH TO HUNGARIANS ON CSCE AND INTENDS TO SUBMIT THESE BY MID-JUNE SO THAT THEY ALSO
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MAY BE DISCUSSED WITH NAGY.

7. UNDER RUBRIC OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS WE DISCUSS WITH NAGY: SALT; EUROPEAN SECURITY, PARTICULARLY POLITICAL ASPECTS OF MILITARY EQUATION IN EUROPE; AND GREAT POWER AND CUBAN ROLES IN AFRICA. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THIS IS GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS OUR LACK OF AGGRESSIVE INTENT BUT OUR DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN OUR SECURITY, ALSO TO EXPLAIN ONCE MORE MANNER IN WHICH GENERAL POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN EAST-WEST AFFAIRS WILL INFLUENCE DEBATE ON RATIFICATION OF SALT AGREEMENT.

8. JANOS KADAR IN RECENT SPEECH TO IMPORTANT APRIL MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF HSWP (TO BE REPORTED SEPTEL) UNDERLINED HUNGARY'S COMMITMENT TO EXPANDING RELATIONS WITH MAJOR WESTERN COUNTRIES WHILE AT SAME TIME REMAINING FIRMLY IN WARSAW PACT ALLIANCE. IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE (AND U.S.) IS A THEME CURRENTLY OPENLY AND STRONGLY STRESSED HERE AND A THUS IT IS NATURAL THAT KOVACS MIGHT SUGGEST IT AS A TOPIC WHICH NAGY MIGHT WISH TO ADDRESS (PARA 5 REFTEL). ALTHOUGH NO ONE HERE IN MFA HAS RECENTLY MADE A

PARTICULAR POINT OF DISCUSSING HUNGARY'S EUROPEAN RELATIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, WEST EUROPEAN RELATIONS DO COME UP FREQUENTLY IN OUR ONGOING COVERSACTIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MFA OFFICIALS. KOVACS OR NAGY MIGHT NOW DEEM IT USEFUL FOR LATTER TO EXPLAIN TO DEPARTMENT PRINCIPALS MANNER IN WHICH HUNGARY CAN EXPAND RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND ITS WESTERN ALLIES AND SIMUTANEOUSLY RETAIN TRUST AND CONFIDENCE OF ITS ALLIES. HE COULD EXPOUND ON HOW HE SEES GROUND RULES FOR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND U.S.

9. EMBASSY BELIEVES OTHER SIDE OF THIS QUESTION IS U.S. POLICY TOWARDS SOVIETS AND EAST EUROPEAN STATES. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ASST. SECRETARY VEST AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHERS TO GIVE A RUN DOWN ON THIS SCORE, ELICITING, IF POSSIBLE, NAGY'S REACTION.

10. FINALLY, WHILE WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE FOR US TO RAISE QUESTIONS OF CYPRUS OR MIDDLE EAST WITH NAGY, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE RESPONSIVE IF HE ASKS FOR OUR VIEWS ON THOSE TOPICS. HUNGARY REGARDS THESE QUESTIONS AS CLOSE ENOUGH TO HOME AND CENTRAL ENOUGH TO EAST-WEST RELATIONS TO HAVE A POTENTIAL AFFECT ON THEIR FOREIGN POLICY.
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